

1 IN THE CLAIMS

2
3 Please cancel claims 41-57.

4
5 Please amend the claims as follows:

6
7 {MARKED-UP VERSION OF THE AMENDED CLAIMS}

8 --9.(Amended) An improved time of flight mass spectrometer according to claim 1 wherein at
9 least one of said plates is energized to a positive potential and another of said plates is energized
10 to a negative potential.

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12 33.(Amended) An improved time of flight mass spectrometer according to claim 32 wherein the
13 bipolar deflection [defection] plates are curved.--
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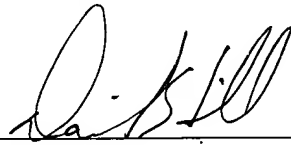
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Importantly, the cancellation of claims 41-57 were made for the sole purpose of bringing the claims containing allowable subject matter to issuance, and were in no way amended or cancelled for any reasons of patentability. In fact, applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's rejection of claims 41-57, and therefore reserves the right to prosecute such claims in one or more continuation or divisional applications.

1 CONCLUSION

2 In view of the foregoing, applicant respectfully submits that the present invention
3 represents a patentable contribution to the art and that pending claims 1-40 are in condition for
4 allowance. Early and favorable action is accordingly solicited.
5

Respectfully submitted,



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David M. Hill
Reg. No. 46,170
WARD & OLIVO
708 Third Avenue
New York, New York 10017
(212) 697-6262